

Application No. 10/763,914
Preliminary Amendment dated September 10, 2004
PETITION TO ACCEPT AN UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED CLAIM
FOR THE BENEFIT OF AN EARLIER FILING DATE

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A cartridge containing one or more beverage ingredients and being formed from substantially air- and water-impermeable materials, said cartridge comprising an inlet for the introduction of an aqueous medium into the cartridge, and an outlet for a beverage produced from said one or more beverage ingredients, wherein said cartridge comprises an outer member, an inner member inserted in the outer member and means for producing a jet of the beverage, wherein said means for producing the jet of the beverage comprises an aperture in a beverage flow path linking the inlet to the outlet, characterised in that the aperture is delimited by an interface between the inner member and the outer member.

2. (Currently amended) A cartridge as claimed in claim 1 wherein one of the inner member or outer member comprises an opening and the other of the inner member or outer member comprises an obstruction, wherein on insertion of the inner member in the outer member, the obstruction partially obstructs the opening to so delimit the aperture.

3. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 2 wherein the opening comprises an elongated slot.

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4. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 3 wherein the inner member comprises said elongated slot.
5. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 4 wherein the outer member comprises the obstruction.
6. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 5 wherein the obstruction comprises an extension of the outer member at least a part of which projects into the inner member.
7. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 6 wherein the elongated slot is formed in a cylindrical wall of the inner member.
8. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 7 wherein the elongated slot extends to the upper edge of the cylindrical wall.
9. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 7 wherein the extension of the outer member is a cylindrical extension which is received as a sliding fit within the cylindrical wall of the inner member.
10. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 9 wherein the aperture has a cross-sectional area of 0.4 to 0.7 mm².
11. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 10 further comprising at least one inlet for air and means for generating a pressure reduction of the jet of

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beverage, whereby, in use, air from the at least one air inlet is incorporated into the beverage as a plurality of small bubbles.

12. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 11 wherein the at least one air inlet is provided in the inner member downstream of the aperture.

13. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 12 wherein the inner member comprises a discharge spout defining the outlet.

14. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 13 wherein the jet of beverage issuing from the aperture is directed into the discharge spout.

15. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 14 wherein the jet of beverage impinges a surface of the discharge spout between issuing from the aperture and exiting the outlet.

16. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 15 wherein the surface is a concave wall of the discharge spout.

17. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 16 wherein the concave wall is positioned on an opposite side of the discharge spout from the aperture.

18. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 17 wherein the aperture directs the beverage to flow at an angle substantially perpendicular to a flow of beverage out of the outlet.

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19. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 18 wherein the discharge spout is integral with the inner member.

20. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 19 wherein the cartridge is disc-shaped.

21. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 20 wherein the outer member and/or inner member are formed from polypropylene.

22. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 21 wherein the outer member and/or inner member are formed from a biodegradable polymer.

23. (Original) A cartridge as claimed in claim 22 wherein the outer member and/or inner member is formed by injection moulding.